

**Mariners: No meetings until further notice**

**Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am**

**EVERY MONTH SCHEDULE**

Sunday School	Sunday	9:45 a.m.
Informal Worship	Sunday	10:45 a.m.
Worship Hour	Sunday	11:00 a.m.
Commissions	3rd Thursday	6:00 p.m.
General Board	3rd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Singers	Thursday	4:15 p.m.
Friday Fellowship	Postponed until further notice	
Mariners	Postponed until further notice	
Women's Fellowship	3rd Tuesday	9:30 a.m.
Food Bank	1st Sunday	9:30 a.m.

Due to COVID-19, Friday Fellowship and Mariners have been temporarily postponed until further notice.

**The Mirror – July 2021**

The Mirror is published once a Month. Information deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.



Empire Church  
of the Brethren

P.O. Box 215

Empire, CA 95319

Phone: 209-522-4302

Pastor John Price: (209) 480-2778

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.



You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. *Psalm 91:1-6*

### **IN CHRIST ALONE**

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.



### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Pat Benton** – Pain & Leg Circulation

**Ron Cadruvi** – Blood Clots

**Don & Suzanne Frantz** – Cancer

**Jeff Qualls** – Cancer Treatment



### **GOD'S SECOND PRIORITY:**

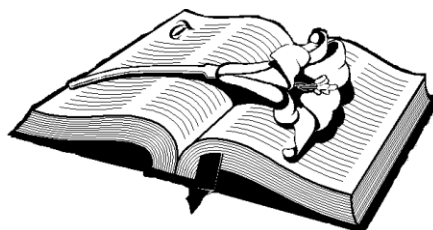
### **FELLOWSHIP AND COMMUNICATION WITH GOD**

God wants us to be able to have rich and wonderful communion with Him. He is accomplishing this through His Word and by His Spirit.

God wants to fellowship with you! He wants you to enjoy an awareness of His presence every day!

God not only wants believers to come closer to Him; He also wants those who are far away from Him to come, too. He said that if you would call to Him from wherever you are, from the farthest point in all creation, He would remove all the distance between you and Him.

God wants you! He is not looking for reasons to disown you, but He is looking for reasons to help you and to bring you closer to Himself. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" *Isaiah 1:18*.



## **POSITIVE INSIGHTS**

*“And let Us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went.” Genesis 35:3*

Your mind is a powerful instrument. If it controls you, you'll not be victorious. But if you control it, you will be. However, I don't believe that a human being by his own unaided strength can accomplish this. Something else needs to be added.

I once knew a distressed man who held steady and made his way back up with the help of a wonderful dynamic thought that changes everything. Given what little I know about human beings and about God, I will guarantee that this thought can help anybody under any circumstances to keep on keeping on. Everybody would do well to hold it in consciousness until it absorbs into the unconsciousness and live by it. It's found in Philippians, the fourth chapter, thirteenth verse. And this is it: I can do all things through – myself? No. “Christ gives me strength to face anything.” Christ will help you keep on keeping on,

**Prayer:** *Our Heavenly Father, we thank You for the wonderful gospel, for the clear mind of Jesus Christ, for the power which He possesses and for the fact that He makes this power available to us to set us free from defeat and fear. We give You thanks. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

*Norman Vincent Peale*

## **FOURTH OF JULY THOUGHTS**

**Presented by Steven M. Sultanoff, Ph.D.**

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4<sup>th</sup>, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, tortured before they died.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured.

Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners, men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Guinett, Heyward, Ruttledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart. Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave you and me a free and independent America.

The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't fight just the British.

We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government! Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't. So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid. Remember freedom is never free!

## **SHAFT OF LIGHT AND DOVE WINDOW**

One of our Sanctuary stained glass windows depicts a shaft of light and a dove with an olive branch in its beak. The dove is the representation of the Holy Spirit, peace, reconciliation and forgiveness. The shaft of light behind the dove is a symbol of God the Creator.

The dove is mentioned 46 times in the Bible. The most important mention of the dove is in the four accounts of Jesus baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist (Matt. 3:16, Mark 1:10, Luke 3:22, and John 1:32). "As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him."

We first see the dove mentioned in the account of Noah and the flood (Genesis 6:9). After 40 days Noah sent out a dove but the dove could find no place to perch because the water still covered the earth. After 7 more days Noah sent the dove out once more. The dove returned with an olive branch in its beak and Noah knew the water had receded from the earth. After seven more days he once again sent the dove out and it did not return. After Noah and his family left the Ark along with all the animals Noah sacrificed burnt offerings on an altar that he built. God blessed the people with peace, forgiveness and the promise to never again destroy the earth. The dove is the only symbol given to the Holy Spirit. Scholars believe that the dove was chosen because of its calm disposition and gentle cooing.

*Lois Frantz*

## JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> HUMOR

“You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism.”



**Erma Bombeck**

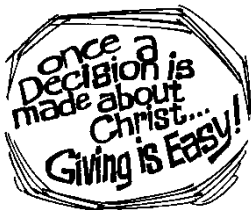
The Fourth of July weekend was approaching, and Miss Pelham, the nursery school teacher, took the opportunity to tell her class about patriotism. “We live in a great country,” she announced. “One of the things we should be happy about is that, in this country, we are all free.” Trevor, who was a little boy in her class, came walking up to her from the back of the room. He stood with his hands on his hips and said loudly, “I’m not free. I’m four.”

## MAY 2021 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 24

### Giving:

Local:	\$5,443.92
Sunday School:	0
Youth:	0
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	0
Other:	46.46
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$5,490.38</b>



## DATES TO REMEMBER IN JULY



### ANNIVERSARIES

- 20<sup>th</sup> –Roger & Cynthia Welch
- 28<sup>th</sup> –Skip & Kathleen Powell

- 13<sup>th</sup> –Pat Shafer
- 17<sup>th</sup> –Jen Baker
- 18<sup>th</sup> –Sheryle Knott  
Carolyn Trent
- 20<sup>th</sup> –Pam Franklin
- 24<sup>th</sup> –Cynthia Welch
- 29<sup>th</sup> –Veronica Suderman

### BIRTHDAYS

- 01<sup>st</sup> –Bailey Price
- 02<sup>nd</sup> –Natasha Towe
- 06<sup>th</sup> –Glenn Stanford



*If we have missed wishing you a happy birthday or a happy anniversary, we may not have your dates. Please turn in your name and dates to the church secretary. You are important to us!*

**OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESSES:**

**Website:** [www.empirecob.org](http://www.empirecob.org); **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB](https://www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB);

**Twitter:** [https://twitter.com/empire\\_cob](https://twitter.com/empire_cob); and

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/empirechurchofthebrethren/>



**DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES,  
(THE SECRETARY'S  
KNEE REPLACEMENT SURGERY)  
THE JULY MIRROR IS OUT A LITTLE LATE!  
SHE DOES APOLOGIZE FOR ANY  
INCONVENIENCE THIS HAS CAUSED!**





# JULY 2021 PRAYER CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 Psalm 119:1-16  Sarah Adams Gerald Allinson Alex & Cathy Arellano Candice Arellano	2 Hebrews 13:1-6  Molly Arellano Donna Ayres Elaine Azevedo	3 Philippians 4:4-7  Ben & Jen Baker Ken Barklow Don & Pat Benton
4 Psalm 19:1-9  Pastor & Teachers Wanda Bollinger Pauline Bert Michael Best Earleen Cadruvi & Fam.	5 1 Corinthians 2:9-13  Ron Cadruvi & Fam. Phyllis Caudle Linda Carter & Ivy	6 Deuteronomy 11:8-15  Ashley Cooksey & Fam. Naomi Covey Arlene Cupp Charlotte DeHart	7 Psalm 133:1-3  Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zac Fear	8 Romans 15:1-13  Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin Kerby & Heather Frantz Lyndall & Lois Frantz	9 Matthew 4:1-11  Lloyd Fullmer Jerry Goodman Thomas & Patricia Guthrie	10 1 Samuel 16:1-13  Harold Harger Clark Hartman Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield Marvene Hilkey
11 Psalm 62:1-8  Pastor & Teachers Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Fam. David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family	12 Romans 8:26-28  Jay Irizarry Norman Johnson Randy & Teri Johnson & Fam.	13 Matthew 9:37-38  Darlene Kennard Sheryle Knott & Fam. Eunice Lasater Mary Lou Lee	14 2 Timothy 1:3-7  David & Cheryl Leib JoAnn Lusk Norma Lutes Gerri Masellis Ric Mason	15 Psalm 63:1-11  Stacy Nelson Suzanne Neptune Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker	16 John 6:5-13  Brad Parrish & Fam. Tommie Parrish Daymon & Sarah Peterson & Family	17 Psalm 3:1-8  Dennis Peterson Oscar Phan Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family
18 Matthew 11:25-30  Pastor & Teachers Skip & Kathleen Powell Jeff Price	19 Romans 5:1-8  Jeremy & Erica Price & Fam. Joel & Susan Price & Fam.	20 Psalm 46:1-6  John & Kathy Price Nathan & Kim Price & Fam.	21 Luke 2:8-15  Kay Qualls Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family Mary Rariden	22 2 Corinthians 9:6-15  Charlotte Rice & Fam. Lana Royer Keith Shafer Vance & Maria Shafer	23 Matthew 18:1-5  Vern & Patty Shafer Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Fam. Marilyn Snider	24 Psalm 57:1-5  Tony & Laura Snyder & Fam. Gayle Stanfill Glenn Stanford
25 Joshua 1:1-9  Pastor & Teachers J.J. & Soleena Storne & Fam. Veronica Suderman & Family	26 Psalm 23:1-6  Arthur Syverson Mark & Amber Syverson & Fam. Mike Syverson	27 Romans 12:1-8  Natasha Towe Carolyn Trent John & Sue Vacca	28 Matthew 28:16-20  Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family Linda Ward & Fam Roger & Cynthia Welch & Fam.	29 1 Kings 19:6-18  Josh & Heather Winchester & Fam. Derek Wyatt Don & Susan Wyatt Donny Wyatt	30 Isaiah 41:1-14	31 John 8:12-19




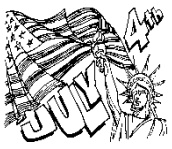









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# JULY 2021 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	2	3 <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> 9:00am-2:00pm
4 	5	6  <b>EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> 9:00am-Noon	7  8:00 am Government Commodities Distribution	8  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	9	10 <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> 9:00am-2:00pm
11	12	13  <b>EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> 9:00am-Noon	14	15  4:15pm Fellowship Singers 6:00pm Board Meeting	16	17 <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> 9:00am-2:00pm
18	19	20  <b>EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> 9:00am-Noon 9:30am Women's Fellowship Mtg.	21	22  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	23	24 <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> 9:00am-2:00pm
25	26	27  <b>EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> 9:00am-Noon	28	29  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	30	31 <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> 9:00am-2:00pm

## EVERY SUNDAY

- 9:45am Sunday School
- 10:45am Informal Worship
- 11:00am Worship Hour